



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: AIDS and HIV infections continue to have a global impact, with an estimated 33.4 million people, including 2.1 million children, living with AIDS or HIV infection, while over 25 million have died worldwide; and
- WHEREAS: AIDS and HIV infection continues to be a priority health concern in the United States, with over 1.1 million Americans living with HIV infection and an estimated 48,100 new HIV infections occurring yearly. In Minnesota, there have been 9,493 cases of HIV infection reported since 1982 and there are 6,814 people currently known to be living with HIV; and
- WHEREAS: In Minnesota, gay men, communities of color, and American Indians continue to have higher and disproportionate rates of HIV infection; and
- WHEREAS: The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has designated an independent organization, World AIDS Campaign, to oversee and unite global efforts to combat HIV and AIDS; and
- WHEREAS: In recognition of the fact that impacting this global epidemic requires a renewed and unified worldwide, national, and local effort, the World AIDS Campaign theme for World AIDS Day 2011, "Getting to Zero," aims to reduce new HIV infections, discrimination, and AIDS related deaths to zero; and
- WHEREAS: The fight against HIV infection and AIDS will only be won through increased advances and equal access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care; and Minnesotans are encouraged to educate themselves about the risks of HIV, know their HIV status through testing, get care if infected, and demonstrate compassion for those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2011 as:

WORLD AIDS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 16th day of November.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE